

EPI Update for Friday, May 11, 2018
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's EPI Update include:

- **HIV drug resistance testing data helps identify transmission clusters**
- **Most gonorrhea patients treated correctly, but room for improvement**
- **New CDC resources for infection prevention in dental care settings**
- **In the news: How worried should you be about a disease you've never heard of?**
- **In the news: "Forget the Avengers, it took real heroes to make India polio-free"**
- **Infographic: Share the fun, not the germs, and make a healthy splash!**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

HIV drug resistance testing data helps identify transmission clusters

CDC provides guidance to state and city health departments on HIV prevention and surveillance. A component of this system is molecular HIV surveillance (MHS). MHS involves collecting HIV nucleotide sequence data from laboratories performing HIV drug resistance testing to:

- estimate the prevalence of and monitor trends in HIV drug resistance mutations
- monitor the distribution of HIV genetic subtypes and recombinants
- describe patterns of HIV transmission
- assist with HIV treatment, prevention, program planning and evaluation

HIV drug resistance testing is recommended for all persons with diagnosed HIV infection at entry to HIV care to help health care providers select an appropriate treatment regimen. This data also provides information for molecular HIV surveillance, which can help IDPH identify HIV transmission clusters and take public health action to reduce further transmission in specific populations or geographical locations. All state health departments and jurisdictions are required to conduct molecular HIV surveillance as part of a comprehensive HIV surveillance and prevention program. Data on HIV drug resistance testing assists greatly with these activities, so providers are encouraged to test for HIV drug resistance in all people with diagnosed HIV infection at entry to HIV care.

For questions about HIV drug resistance testing or molecular HIV surveillance, please contact Alagie Jatta at (515) 281-6918 or alagie.jatta@idph.iowa.gov.

Most gonorrhea patients treated correctly, but room for improvement

A recent analysis of gonorrhea treatment practices found that 81 percent of persons diagnosed with gonorrhea were being treated per CDC guidelines. There were differences in gonorrhea treatment by clinic type, however: STD

clinics (often housed within the local health department of larger cities) and reproductive health/family planning clinics treated per CDC guidelines most often (91 percent and 94 percent of diagnoses, respectively). The number dropped to 80 percent for other healthcare providers. Similar trends are seen in Iowa, based on available information.

The CDC recommended treatment for gonorrhea is 250mg ceftriaxone plus 1g azithromycin (both medications given the same day). This dual therapy is important to ensure the patient is cured of the infection and to slow growing antimicrobial resistance among *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Monotherapy should never be done for gonorrhea as it accelerates antimicrobial resistance.

To view the full study, visit www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6716a4.htm.

New CDC resources for infection prevention in dental care settings

A new CDC resource for dental practitioners simplifies information on how to improve infection control and reduce patient risks in their practices. *Basic Expectations for Safe Care Training Modules* is a training series that covers the basic principles of infection prevention and control for dental health care settings. It complements CDC's *Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings: Basic Expectations for Safe Care*, and was developed to increase adherence to established infection prevention practices. The slide series is divided into 10 modules, and each module includes a slide set and speaker notes that can be used to educate and train infection prevention coordinators, educators, consultants and other dental health care personnel.

To view *Basic Expectations for Safe Care Training Modules*, visit www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/safe-care-modules.htm.

To view *Summary of Infection Prevention Practices in Dental Settings: Basic Expectations for Safe Care*, visit www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/guidelines/index.htm.

In the news: How worried should you be about a disease you've never heard of?

www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2018/05/03/607421694/why-you-dont-have-to-worry-about-a-disease-you-ve-never-heard-of

In the news: "Forget the Avengers, it took real heroes to make India polio-free"

www.theguardian.com/global-development/2018/apr/26/amitabh-bachchan-bollywood-india-polio-free-deadly-diseases-life-saving-vaccines

Infographic: Share the fun, not the germs, and make a healthy splash!



To view in full size, visit

www.cdc.gov/healthywater/pdf/swimming/resources/share-fun-not-germs-508c.pdf.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

None

Have a healthy and happy week!

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Iowa Department of Public Health

800-362-2736